Remarks

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1-43 are pending in the application, with 30, 34 and 36 being the independent claims. Claims 1-29 are sought to be cancelled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter therein. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

Support for new claim 30 is found, *inter alia*, at page 6, lines 17-19, as well as in claims 19 and 20 as originally filed.

Support for new claim 31 is found, *inter alia*, at page 11, lines 9-11, as well as in claim 21 as originally filed.

Support for new claim 32 is found, *inter alia*, at page 11, lines 11-13, as well as in claim 22 as originally filed.

Support for new claim 33 is found, *inter alia*, at page 11, lines 11-13, as well as in claim 22 as originally filed.

Support for new claim 34 is found, *inter alia*, at page 11, lines 7-13, as well as in claims 19 and 22 as originally filed.

Support for new claim 35 is found, *inter alia*, at page 10, line 18 through page 11, line 6.

Support for new claim 36 is found, *inter alia*, at page 12, line 6 through page 14, line 14.

Support for new claim 37 is found, *inter alia*, at page 11, line 30 through page 12, line 5, as well as page 15, lines 14-17.

Support for new claim 38 is found, *inter alia*, at page 11, line 30 through page 12, line 5.

Support for new claim 39 is found, *inter alia*, at page 11, line 30 through page 12, line 5.

Support for new claim 40 is found, *inter alia*, at page 11, line 30 through page 12, line 5.

Support for new claim 41 is found, *inter alia*, at page 11, line 30 through page 12, line 5, as well as page 15, lines 14-17.

Support for new claim 42 is found, *inter alia*, in claims 5-18 as originally submitted.

Support for new claim 43 is found, inter alia, at page 11, lines 28-30.

Conclusion

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Preliminary Amendment is respectfully requested. Applicants believe the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

As Filed On Oct. 23, 2003

Jorge A. Goldstein Attorney for Applicants Registration No. 29,021

Date: $(0)\gamma\gamma | 0^3$

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